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JPRS L/8799

5 December 1979

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 51/79)



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WORLDWIDE REPORT
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
(FOUO 51/79)

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MALAYSIA

SHORTAGE OF BLACK MARKET OPIUM SUPPLIES CAUSES PRICE TO SOAR

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 3 Feb 79 p 4

[Article: Nations Strengthen Border Patrols Because of Vietnam-Cambodia War; In Several Cities and Towns in Malacca and Namam a Black Market Opium Supply Shortage Occurs; Price of Remaining Opium Soars to Over \$1000 Per Ounce"]

[Text] (Malacca February 2) Because of the Cambodia-Vietnam war, nations on the South China Peninsula strengthened border patrols, causing a severe shortage of black market opium supplies in several cities and towns in Malacca and Namam.

Opium smokers scrambled to buy the remaining stock, causing the prices on the black market to soar. It was learned here that black market prices for the remaining stock at present soared to over \$1000 from the original \$600.

Several "opium dens" in the city of Malacca were forced to close down temporarily because of the shortage. Opium smokers complained that opium cannot be bought even if one had the money. How are opium smokers going to live? According to reports, "many" had to quit the habit.

The very few addicts who "cannot survive without smoking opium" will be seeking medical drugs or other methods to ease them over this period.

One opium smoker claims that because opium cannot be bought on the open market, his personal supply will only last him a week. What will happen next is still a guess.

It is known that in the past, many opium smokers quit the habit because of livelihood hardships. Quitting the opium habit is very unpleasant but as the supply of opium today has almost stopped, they will have no other alternative.

At present, there are not too many opium addicts.

Concerned authorities say that dealing in opium as a trade will dwindle because fewer people are smoking opium.

And in addition to strict prohibition and eradication by the government, the risky opium business now has no future.

Although many modern young people have acquired the habit of taking drugs, they take mostly white powdered heroin, not "opium" for smoking.

Informed sources point out that not only has the supply of opium ceased but information on other drugs is lacking.

Informed sources also point out that the shortage of opium supplies is related to the Cambodia-Vietnam war. Strict investigations are being conducted everywhere and therefore export, import and transportation of opium have been severely hampered.

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CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

ILLEGAL DRUG DEALERSHIP IN TAIPING RAIDED

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 3 Feb 79 p 4

[Text] (Taiping February 2) Taiping police raided and exposed an illegal drug dealership in the city yesterday afternoon. A batch of various kinds of narcotics was seized and five suspects were taken into custody.

The captured narcotics included 10 ounces of morphine, a tube full and two small packs of heroin and seven packs of opium.

The suspects included four Chinese and one Iban. They are between 17 and 53 years old and from Gebe, Yiyu, Simpang and the Taiping metropolitan area.

According to police, the particular locality was under suspicion for some time and three raids were conducted without finding any evidence of criminal activity until yesterday when a catch of narcotics was made. The locality is thus believed to be a center for narcotics trade.

The police said that at 3:45 pm yesterday afternoon, policemen again raided the above locality under suspicion, a two story shop and residence in the Basar side of the city of Taiping. Police found the narcotics hidden behind the ceiling and detained five people in the shop.

The police spokesman expressed thanks to the people who provided information and cooperation which led to the solving of this case. This catch of narcotics is the largest of all such catches so far this year.

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MALAYSIA

DOGS TO BE USED FOR NARCOTICS DETECTION AT EXIT, ENTRY PORTS

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 4 Feb 79 p 5

[Article: "Liang Weipan [2733 4850 3140] Reveals the Government Will Gradually Use Dogs for Narcotics Detection at All of the Nation's Exit and Entry Ports; United Nations Tariff Bureau Gives Malacca Four Trained Police Dogs for Detecting Narcotics"]

[Text] (Kuala Lumpur February 3) Vice Minister of Finance, Datuk Dr Liang Weipan [2733 4850 3140] said last night the government will follow a step by step program to assign police dogs at all exit and entry ports to detect narcotics.

He said that in the detection of illegal transportation of narcotics, dogs are the most effective deterrent.

Datuk Liang made the above comment at the ceremony held at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport to receive these four dogs given by the United Nations Tariff Bureau to the Malacca Customs Anti-Narcotics Police Dog Unit.

He said the Anti-Narcotics Police Dog Unit has seven dogs at present. Another four are now being trained in Australia.

He said the Customs Bureau of Malacca wants to acquire as many dogs as possible but the problem is the difficulty in finding suitable dogs.

Of the dogs now in training, only 5 to 10 percent are good at detecting narcotics.

He also said five high echelon customs officers are currently being trained in the newest anti-smuggling techniques. They will also study the use of new equipment.

Datuk Liang said the authorities have hired 140 customs inspectors and 480 customs officers to strengthen the force of the Customs Bureau.

He continued to say that the Customs Bureau has very successfully controlled narcotics trafficking and smuggling activities.

Annual revenue of the Customs Bureau constitutes over 54 percent of total national revenue.

Shortly afterwards, Datuk Liang received four dogs from United Nations Consular Officer James Rosendle [transliteration] at the United Nations Embassy.

Four Malaccan Customs Bureau officers had given these four dogs 3 months of intensive training in the United States. These four officers will also be the trainers of these four dogs in the future.

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MALAYSIA

ANTI-NARCOTICS DELEGATION SEEKS LOAN FOR REHABILITATION CENTER

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 10 Feb 79 p 9

[Article: "Kuala Lumpur Anti-Narcotics Delegation Asks Selangor Governor for Big Loan to Build Rehabilitation Center for Drug Addicts"]

[Text] (Kuala Lumpur February 9) An anti-narcotics delegation will meet with Selangor Governor Datuk Hema to request sufficient loans to build a rehabilitation center for drug addicts in Grahmo Datoh.

The delegation consists of representatives from the Iban anti-narcotics alliance, the national association for the prevention of indiscriminate use of drugs and representatives of Iban doctors in Malacca.

The person in charge of the Iban anti-narcotics alliance said the organization has already received 80 percent of the funds for building the planned rehabilitation center. Construction costs will reach \$82,000.

He said when the delegates meet with Datuk Hema, they will ask for a state government loan of \$12,000.

After completion of the rehabilitation center, addicts who seek help will be treated by Iban doctors, Chinese traditional doctors or traditional Indian medical techniques.

The rehabilitation center will provide the patients with living quarters, a week's meals and a 45-day supply of medication.

He continued to state that last year, a total of 500 drug addicts received traditional treatment.

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MALAYSIA

SELANGOR POLICE BEGIN PLAN TO ELIMINATE NARCOTICS

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 3 Feb 79 p 9

[Article: "Selangor Police Begin Plan to Eliminate Flood of Narcotics This Year; Three Committees Will Be Set Up in Each County to Help the Government Eradicate Narcotics; The Committees Will Consist of Representatives from Government, Private Institutions and Volunteer Groups"]

[Text] (Kelang, February 2) Selangor police will begin to intensify steps in their efforts to eliminate the flood of narcotics starting this year. One of the steps to be taken will be the establishment of three committees in each county to help the government fight the flood of narcotics.

Selangor Police Chief Ali Zhentels said the three committees will consist of (1) members from all government departments, (2) private institutions, and (3) volunteer groups.

Thirty-two representatives from the departments of the county government of Kelang already participated in a meeting yesterday morning at the Selangor police headquarters. The meeting was called by the police chief of Selangor. The first narcotics eradication committee was set up. Those who participated in yesterday's meeting included Selangor's criminal investigation chief Mohamad Ali and chief of the Selangor police district Yehaye, etc. The reaction to the meeting was good.

The meeting set up five working cells to draft this year's work plans and extensively discussed ways to assist in battling the flood of narcotics.

Ali Zhentela said there were 582 narcotics cases in 1978, and 693 were arrested, including 262 unemployed persons, 173 laborers, and 57 educational workers. Most of the narcotics cases, or 143 cases, occurred in Port Swettenham, 84 cases occurred in Kelang, 112 occurred in Petaling, and 31 occurred in Ampang.

Those suspected of narcotics activities were mostly between the ages of 17 and 25. Lesser numbers of offenders were between the ages of 25 and 30 and those between the ages of 30 and 35 numbered even less.

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MALAYSIA

THREE CHINESE FISHERMEN ON TRIAL FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING

Trial Begins

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese Feb 7 79 p 4

[Article: "Trial of Longsam Fishermen on Drug Trafficking Starts; Investigator Relates Events on the Day the Hotel Was Raided, the Three Men Were Arrested, Narcotics Were Captured and Airplane Tickets Were Confiscated"]

[Text] (Kuala Lumpur February 6) Three young Chinese fishermen went on trial on charges of drug trafficking at the Supreme Court today. Investigator of the case, assistant police superintendent Mahalingan testified that he found and confiscated from the second and third defendants 12 packages of powdered substance and two round trip airplane tickets between Rome and Kuala Lumpur.

He also found and confiscated from the first defendant a round trip ticket between Rome and Kuala Lumpur and three one way airplane tickets from Georgetown to Singapore. These three tickets belonged to each of the three defendants.

The 12 packages of powdered substance were examined by laboratory technician Yarelanxing and proved to be heroin weighing 2862.28 grams (equivalent to 6.31 lbs.)

The first defendant was Huang Yake [7806 0068 8331] (27 years old) from Weston. The second defendant was Zhang Yake [1728 0068 8331] (26 years old). The third defendant was Wang Ruiqing [3769 3843 1987] (27 years old) from Tanjungmedan in the Bila region.

They were accused of trying to push 6.31 lbs (2862.36 grams) of heroin together at 2:30 am October 10, 1976, at the South Sea Hotel on Sudan Street. They were accused of violating Article 39B (2) of the Dangerous Drugs Law and Article 34 of the Criminal Code.

The three defendants were defended by defense attorneys Qlabaxing, Rejixing and Ye Guoqiang [5509 0948 1730].

The investigating officer of this case, assistant police superintendent Mahalingan of the anti-narcotics unit of the criminal department of the police headquarters testified that at 2:30 am on October 10, 1976, he led a group of policemen to the South Sea Hotel on Sudan Street. They met a Chinese in a guest room on the third floor. He was first defendant of this case, Huang Yake.

He asked the first defendant to show his resident card but the defendant presented a driver's license and an international passport. He inspected the luggage of the first defendant. There were clothes and three Malaysian Airlines tickets for a one way trip from Georgetown to Singapore. There were three names on the three tickets. They were the names of the first defendant Huang Yake and Zhang Yake (second defendant) and Wang Ruiqing (the third defendant). The tickets were dated September 7, 1976.

He said he arrested the first defendant. The first defendant told him that originally the first defendant was going to Singapore with the second and third defendants together. But they did not wait at the airport so the first defendant decided to go to Singapore by land.

The witness discovered three glasses that had been used in the guest room. The first defendant led the witness into another guest room. The witness met the second and third defendants and discovered a leather wallet, a handbag and a leather suitcase. There were two sets of wooden plates inside the hand bag. Four packages of a powdered substance were inside the small wooden plates and six packages of a powdered substance were inside the large wooden plates. The other leather suitcase contained clothes. After the clothes were brought to the police station, it was discovered that there were two large packages of powdered substance. Thus he arrested the second and the third defendants. At the same time, he discovered US \$353 and two international passports and two Singapore Airlines tickets belonging to the second and third defendants. The two tickets were round trip airplane tickets between Kuala Lumpur and Rome via Singapore. The flight time on the tickets was 2 pm, October 10, 1976.

He brought the three defendants to the police station along with 12 packages of powdered substance totaling 19.5 lbs.

The witness said he later searched the first defendant and found a Singapore Airlines ticket, also a round trip ticket between Kuala Lumpur and Rome via Singapore. The date on the ticket was October 10, 1976.

The witness also found \$213.60 in Malaysian currency and a medical identification card.

On October 12, 1976, he handed the 12 packages of powdered substance to a laboratory technician for examination.

The witness later went to a travel agency in Georgetown and discovered that these six airplane tickets were brought by a person named Zhang Yajiu [1728 0068 0046]. Mr Zhang had partially paid for the tickets with an invoice of \$1000.

The witness then went to two hotels and found out that the defendants stayed at these hotels from October 5 to October 8 and from October 8 to October 9.

Earlier, the government's high level laboratory technician Yarelangxing testified that on October 12, 1976, he received 12 packages of powdered substance from investigator Mahalingan. After examination in the laboratory, it was discovered to be heroin. The first package contained 45.46 grams of the substance. The second package contained 154.67 grams, the third 161.91 grams, the fourth 160.11 grams, the fifth 164.59 grams, the sixth 156.15 grams, the seventh 161.25 grams, the eighth 165.34 grams, the ninth 157.50 grams, and the tenth contained 153.72 grams.

He said, of the other two packages, one contained 654.09 grams and the other contained 621.47 grams of the substance.

This case is being presided over by judge Datuk Halun. Deputy prosecutor Muhammad Bangshing is the plaintiff. The trial continues tomorrow.

Trial Continues

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 8 Feb 79 p 4

[Article: "Doorman and Bookkeeper Testify That Three Defendants Rented Rooms]

[Text] (Kuala Lumpur February 7) The trial of three young Chinese fishermen charged with trafficking 6.31 lbs of heroin continued today. Former doorman Yalumugan of the South Sea Hotel said, on the day of the incident, three persons came to the hotel in a taxi. They had four leather suitcases with them.

He said the next morning, the police raided but he did not know what happened.

Yalumugan (31 years old) testified that in October, 1976, he was doorman of the South Sea Hotel.

At 7:44 pm a taxi drove up to the hotel with three passengers. He helped them carry two of the four suitcases they had in all.

He said he carried one large suitcase and one small one.

He took them to the reception counter of the hotel and the hotel's receptionist bookkeeper Wu Jintang [0702 6930 1016] assigned two hotel guest rooms to them. One person stayed in one guest room and the two others stayed in the other guest room.

At 2:30 am he was on duty at the hotel when the police came and searched their rooms.

The three defendants, Huang Chengke [sic] [7806 4453 8331] (27 years old), Zhang Yake (26 years old) and Wang Ruiqing (27 years old) were accused of intentionally trafficking 6.31 lbs (equivalent to 2862.36 grams) of heroin at 2:30 am October 10, 1976 at the South Sea Hotel on Sudan Street, Kuala Lumpur. They were accused of violating Article 39B (2) of the Dangerous Drugs Law and Article 34 of the Criminal Code.

The three defendants are being defended separately by lawyers Qiabaxing, Rejixing and Ye Guoqiang.

Janitor of South Sea Hotel Lin Huaqing [2651 5478 1987] (age 55) said he was responsible for sweeping rooms Nos 41 and 46 on the third floor. At 4:00 pm that day when he left, these two rooms were not occupied. He inspected the rooms and there was no luggage left in the rooms.

He said at 10 pm that night when he returned these two rooms were occupied.

The next morning at 2:30 the police came and searched the two rooms.

The hotel's receptionist-bookkeeper Wu Jintang (age 30) said he was on duty that night at 8:00 pm when three young Chinese came to rent the rooms. At first he assigned one room to them but they wanted two rooms. The first defendant stayed in room No 41 and the second and third defendants stayed in room No 46.

Under the request of plaintiff Muhammad Yexin [sic], the presiding judge Datuk Halun ordered a recess until next Monday to continue the hearing.

The presiding judge ordered the narcotics mentioned above to be handed over to the police for safekeeping. According to assistant police superintendent Mahalinlan [sic] the local price for a pound of heroin is about \$5,000. Over six pounds of heroin would command a price of over \$30,000. Overseas, the above amount of drugs would be valued at over one million dollars.

Testimony Continues

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 13 Feb 79 p 4

[Text] (Kuala Lumpur February 12) The trial of three young Chinese fishermen accused of narcotics trafficking continued today. A driver testified that he drove four passengers from B. Mertajam to Ipoh. The first defendant paid for the ride. Witness Xu Zhongya [6079 0022 0068] (31 years old) said at 12:00 noon on October 9, 1976, he was waiting for riders at the B. Mertajam Station. There was already one passenger in the car.

After one hour, he went to a driver education school and picked up two other passengers. These two passengers carried two suitcases, one large and one small.

He said, with three passengers in the car, he drove to Ipoh. En route he stopped at Nibong Tebal and picked up another passenger. This passenger also carried luggage which was placed in the back of the car.

The four passengers went to Ipoh and changed cars.

He said, on October 19, 1976, he came to the Kimanis Police Station to identify the people. He recognized the first defendant as the passenger who got on at Nibong Tebal.

The lawyer of the second defendant, Larexingan, was in Georgetown and could not be present at today's trial. This case was postponed until tomorrow.

The three defendants in this case are Huang Yake (27 years old) from Weston, Zhang Yake (age 26), and Wang Ruiqing (age 27) from Tandjungmedan of Bila.

They are accused of attempting to traffic 6.3 lbs (2,862.36 grams) of heroin together at the South Sea Hotel on Sudan Street here at 2:30 am on October 10, 1976 and violating Article 39B (2) of the Dangerous Drugs Law and Article 34 of the Criminal Code.

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MALAYSIA

IBAN MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE FOR SELLING MARIJUANA CIGARETTES

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 13 Feb 79 p 4

[Text] (Kuala Lumpur February 12) An unemployed man from Kedah was sentenced to life imprisonment by the First District Court of Benpor for selling 1,300 marijuana cigarettes.

Presiding Judge Xidinuoma, after hearing arguments from the plaintiff, the defense, and self defense arguments by the defendant himself, found the defendant guilty of drug trafficking as charged.

Defendant Ali Minhalun, age 39, was accused of selling 1,300 marijuana cigarettes weighing 1,590 grams, in a house in Banpor, Gampong Bahru, at 7:45 pm on June 29, 1978. He was charged with violating Section 2 of Article 29 (B) of the Dangerous Drug Law.

He denied the charges and claimed innocence but he did not hire a lawyer to defend him.

When the case went to trial this morning, the plaintiff, assistant police superintendent Kepierxing, testified that in the afternoon of June 29, 1978, he led a group of subordinates and raided a hotel in Kimanis, Benpor, after receiving a tip.

He said when he and another fellow policeman entered a room in the hotel, they saw a man named Abu Qiake in the room. They searched the room but did not find anything. Later, a man named Hussin entered the room. He was searched but nothing suspicious was found.

At 7:00 pm, the plaintiff saw the defendant enter the hotel. Later, the plaintiff saw the defendant and Hussin in another room of the hotel. He then brought both of these men to the police station.

The witness said that at the police station, the defendant said he had hidden the marijuana at a friend's house. Later, the defendant led the witness and a policeman to Gampong Bahru and brought out a traveling bag from a house. When he opened the traveling bag, it was discovered that inside the bag were three sarongs, one piece of clothing, an overcoat and 1,300 marijuana cigarettes. The marijuana was kept in a plastic bag.

The next day, he handed the marijuana over to the police for laboratory examination.

The defendant said in his self defense that on June 24 last year he and Hussin came to Kuala Lumpur from Alor Star together. After arriving at Fudu Station, Hussin told him to take care of a traveling bag. Later, he left the traveling bag at the home of a friend in Gampong Bahru.

The defendant said when he went to the hotel in Benpor to look up Hussin, he was arrested by the police. At the time, assistant police superintendent Kepierxing asked him where the "stuff" was. He answered that he knew nothing. Then he was taken into custody to the Kimanis police station.

At the police station, the defendant said Kepierxing was told by Hussin that the "stuff" was being kept by him (the defendant), therefore the defendant assumed that the so-called "stuff" referred to the traveling bag Hussin gave him.

When he was interrogated by the plaintiff, deputy police superintendent Cheng Ruixiang [2582 3843 4382], he said he did not know to whom the clothes in the traveling bag belonged.

He denied that he knew marijuana was hidden in the traveling bag, therefore he left the bag at his friend's house.

Later, the defendant called Hussin as his defense witness Hussin (age 31), denied that the traveling bag belonged to him in testimony.

He said the traveling bag was brought to Kuala Lumpur from Alor Star by the defendant.

After the defendant was pronounced guilty as charged, he pleaded saying he was married with nine daughters and sons and the entire family depended on him for a living.

The presiding judge noted before handing down the sentence that the law which the defendant violated provided for only one kind of punishment and that was imprisonment for life. Therefore she had no other choice but to sentence the defendant to life imprisonment.

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CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

BATU PAHAT POLICE CONFISCATE 250 MARIJUANA PLANTS

First Report

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 13 Feb 79 p 4

[Text] (Batu Pahat February 12) Batu Pahat police raided a house in Patan Sali on the highway from Simpang Lima on the outskirts of Batu Pahat to Parit Sulong and confiscated 250 marijuana plants.

The police took into custody a 54-year-old Iban resident of the house and five children between the ages of 18 and 23.

Of the total, 150 marijuana plants were discovered around the house and the other 100 plants were discovered in a pear garden in Paris Parak, 3 miles away.

The assistant deputy police superintendent of Lasa who is chief of investigations of the criminal department of Batu Pahat and police chief Abu Hassan led policemen to investigate after receiving information regarding the case. When they arrived at the door, they were refused entry. The policemen tried to enter and did and finally discovered 112 marijuana cigarettes, 350 marijuana seeds and four packages of white powder and some dried marijuana leaves in the house. The police gathered them up and sent them back to the Batu Pahat police station as evidence.

Deputy police superintendent of the Batu Pahat police district Moda said the confiscated marijuana plants were 5 to 6 feet tall. The catch was valued at about \$20,000. There were also 400 marijuana seedlings.

Further on the Case

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 14 Feb 79 p 3

[Text] (Batu Pahat February 14) Chief of the Batu Pahat police district, deputy police superintendent Moda Laowu thanked the public for providing correct information in helping the police yesterday to successfully discover marijuana plants worth about \$20,000 in Simpang Jeli. Six suspects were taken into custody in the case.

The six suspects were father and sons. The father is 54 years old and the five sons between 18 and 23 years old.

The police received information at 10:00 pm the night before last. Chief of the criminal investigation unit, assistant deputy police superintendent Abdullah Sayunos, and police chief Abu Hassan led five policemen to Gampang Balong Sali, about 10 miles from the city of Batu Pahat, raided a Malay house and took five persons into custody. Later, another person was taken into custody.

The police found 112 marijuana cigarettes, 350 grams of marijuana seeds, some dried marijuana leaves and two packages of white powder in the house.

The owner of the house also led the police to the grounds surrounding the house and a pear garden in Gampang Supana, about 3 miles from the house, where over 200 marijuana trees from 5 to 6 feet tall and 400 marijuana seedlings were found.

This was the first incident in which the Batu Pahat police made a catch of marijuana in Simpang Jeli within the jurisdiction of Batu Pahat, the first time that marijuana was found planted around a residential house, and also the police's first case in which six suspects were taken into custody along with the discovery of marijuana.

In the past, marijuana was mostly planted in inaccessible mountain areas and it had been difficult to arrest any suspects.

The marijuana plants around the house were believed to have been planted there because there were no other residential houses within one and a half miles of the residence. [Place names are as published].

9296
CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

PILAH COUNTY ESTABLISHES ANTI-NARCOTICS COMMITTEE

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 7 Feb 79 p 9

[Article: "Pilah County Establishes Anti-Narcotics Committee to Help Rehabilitate New Drug Addicts"]

[Text] (Pilah February 6) Pilah County has established an anti-narcotics committee devoted to anti-narcotics work and to reducing the indiscriminate use of drugs.

The committee is led by the head of the county government Wangxila and chief of police of the region, deputy police superintendent Yezihusin. Other important members include head of the Central Hospital, chief of the Public Health Bureau, chief of the Welfare Bureau, chief of the Bureau of Religion, chief of Armored Guards, chief of the Youth Department, Upper House member Datuk Zhang Huqing [1728 3275 1987] and Dr Renimaye.

Concerned authorities reveal that because of the seriousness of indiscriminate use of narcotics, many ignorant youths have acquired the habit, committed many crimes, given up their future and became undesirable elements of the country. This committee is founded to save the youths and safeguard social order hopefully with the support and cooperation from all concerned in carrying out the anti-narcotics work smoothly.

All those concerned must cooperate in a responsible manner to eliminate any occurrence of indiscriminate use of narcotics.

If narcotics victims want to rehabilitate themselves, the committee will help them enter the rehabilitation center for that purpose.

Thus, the existence of this organization is very significant because, according to past announcements by the chief of police of Negri Sembilan, although Pilah is not a large city, indiscriminate use of narcotics is very serious.

If the anti-narcotics committee can effectively achieve its anti-narcotics goals, it will be an extraordinary achievement welcomed by all.

9296
CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

POLICEMAN SENTENCED FOR HEROIN POSSESSION

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 7 Feb 79 p 6

[Text] A policeman, charged with possessing 3.03 grams of heroin, faced trial yesterday, was found guilty and sentenced to 3 months in prison.

The policeman was 21-year old Xu Qinghai [6079 3237 3189] of the Bayao Police Station who joined the force only 9 months ago.

The plaintiff was second rank policeman Gebagumananna of the narcotics unit of the central police station.

At 6:20 pm on February 15, 1978, the plaintiff and three fellow officers were on duty on the lower floor of the Kailian Building. One of the fellow policemen discovered that a door of a public lavatory in the building was locked so he reported the situation to the plaintiff.

Confused, the plaintiff ordered his fellow officers to enter the lavatory next door and look in to see what was going on. The fellow officer followed orders and reported that two men were taking drugs. The plaintiff made known to the defendant and the other man inside who he was and ordered them to come out immediately. After the defendant emerged from the lavatory, he was arrested and searched. Fifty-five tubes of white powder were found on the defendant and the defendant was taken to the central police station and booked.

Laboratory examination by the scientific services bureau proved that the 55 tubes of white powder were 3.03 grams of heroin.

The 16th Court judge Qiu Enci [6726 1869 6337], after hearing all evidence, pronounced the defendant guilty as charged.

9296
CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

SABAH POLICE ACTIVE IN ELIMINATING DRUG SMUGGLING

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 18 Feb 79 p 9

[Text] (Malaysia News Agency Kota Kinabaru February 17) Sabah state police are now actively eliminating narcotics smugglers within the state.

This also indicates that organized groups are planning to use Kota Kinabaru as a passage to smuggle narcotics into Hong Kong.

Earlier, Customs Bureau superintendent Datuk Abdulah Sinda was informed in Kuala Lumpur that international groups are planning to use Kota Kinabaru and Sarawak's Sibu to package and send narcotics into Hong Kong.

According to Sabah police superintendent Mohammad Sashi, actions had been taken to arrest the narcotics smugglers but he did not reveal any details.

He said, since last year, 310 grams of heroin, 107 grams of Indian marijuana and 545 grams of opium were seized within the state of Sabah.

Since the beginning of this year, 20 persons have already been arrested for possession of narcotics. Last year, 59 were arrested.

9296
CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

PRISON GUARD ATTEMPTS TO HIDE NARCOTICS IN HIS STOMACH

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 16 Feb 79 p 8

[Article: "Prison Guard Hid Narcotics in His Stomach, But Failed to Escape the Law; Found Guilty and Sentenced to One Year in Prison and Fined \$500 or Three More Months in Jail"]

[Text] (Malacca February 15) A young prison guard who was a drug addict was outwitted by police.

The married prison guard hid his drugs differently from conventional methods. He kept narcotics in his stomach. This addict discovered that he was secretly being tailed and pursued so he swallowed over 10 tubes full of heroin into his stomach and thought that he could escape the charges but he was mistaken.

The Malay prison guard who failed to escape from the law, Kelly Minamo, pleaded guilty today in Benpor district court. He was sentenced to one year in prison and a fine of \$500, otherwise he would have to stay 3 more months in prison without paying the fine.

This prison guard who had watched over prisoners in the Grik Prison in Benpor would now be watched over by other prison guards.

The accused Kelly Minamo is 25 years old. He was living in the dormitory for prison guards at the Grik Prison when he was arrested. At the time, he was working as a prison guard at Grik Prison.

The plaintiff, acting assistant police superintendent Pan Renfu [3382 0088 4395], told the court the defendant was approached by a police detective on Guanyinting Street at 10:15 on the morning of January 9, as the defendant was waiting for a friend.

As the defendant was approached, he suddenly stuffed a package into his mouth. The police detective saw this, rushed forward and grabbed the defendant by the throat but was only able to force one tube full of heroin from the mouth of the defendant.

According to acting police superintendent Pan Renfu defendant Kelly was taken to the Central Police Station of Malacca. Chief of the Central Police District Lasingno forced the defendant to drink a lot of water and finally the defendant vomitted 16 tubes full of heroin.

After interrogation by police, Kelly admitted he also hid drugs in his dormitory room at the Grik Prison.

At 3:00 that afternoon he led police to his dormitory room and under his direction, police found one and a half tubes of heroin in a closet.

The defendant pleaded guilty to the following charges in front of presiding Judge Augustin Paul: (1) Illegal possession of a tube full of heroin on Guanyinting Street at 10:15 the morning of January 9 of this year;

(2) Illegal possession of 16 tubes full of heroin in the Central Police Station in Malacca;

(3) Illegal possession of 0.88 grams of a tube and a half of heroin in his prison guard dormitory at Grik Prison at 3:00 on the same afternoon.

Kelly denied illegal possession of 1.21 grams of drugs in court on January 11 but he changed his plea to guilty.

Presiding judge Augustin Paul handed down a sentence of a fine of \$500 on the first count or 3 months imprisonment, 11 months in prison on the second count, and one year in prison on the third count. The sentences are to be carried out simultaneously.

9296
CSO: 5300

SOUTH KOREA

BRIEFS

OPIUM SMUGGLING FROM IRAN--Seoul, Nov 26 (HAPTONG)--Six persons were put under arrest today for attempting to dispose of one kilogram of raw opium worth two million dollars smuggled from Iran. Police said a seventh person allegedly responsible for the disposal, Yi Kum-sik, 45, was put on a wanted list. Of the six arrested, Han Chul-tong, 42, and Kim Song-pok, 34, former employees in a food processing company in Iran, purchased the contraband at 200,000 Iranian rials and illegally brought them into the country in May, they said. [Text] [SK260840 Seoul HAPTONG in English 0837 GMT 26 Nov 79 SK]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

ESCAPED DRUG TRAFFICKER APPREHENDED IN MALAYSIA

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 28 Sep 79 pp 1, 32

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — Wanted Thai international drug trafficker Siri Sirikul alias Pricha, 47, who was arrested by Malaysian police in Butterworth on Tuesday, will be escorted to Bangkok tomorrow to serve his life sentence.

He will be escorted by the Assistant Commissioner of the Central Investigation Bureau of the Thai Police, Police Major-General Chak Laksanaboonsong, and Police Major Virat Chutimitr.

The Secretary-General of the Thai Narcotics Control Board, General Pow Sarasin, who arrived here with his officers last night to carry out investigations returned to Bangkok today.

He said Malaysian police authorities had agreed to allow the immediate extradition of Siri without pressing charges of possession of a false passport.

Gen. Pow said he confirmed that the arrested man was the escaped drug trafficker Siri after being shown a set of his fingerprints by the Malaysian Director of CID, Commissioner Datuk Abdul Rahman Ismail.

Datuk Rahman said Siri was arrested for illegally staying in the country. Siri will be handed over to the Thai authorities tomorrow.

Siri, one of Thailand's most wanted drug traf-

fickers, escaped from the maximum security Bangkok Prison in Bangkok last year.

Reward

Siri, who had a 100,000 baht (\$10,700) reward on his head for his capture, was arrested in a house in Butterworth at 2.20 a.m. on Tuesday by a team of narcotics officers from the Federal Police Headquarters and the Butterworth district police.

The officers seized a Malaysian passport and an identity card belonging to another person from Siri.

Siri's escape from the Bangkok jail triggered a major scandal in Thailand which led to charges being brought against the governor of the maximum security prison in which he was detained.

Siri was originally arrested on Oct. 5, 1976, in a downtown Dusit Thani hotel car park in Bangkok while handing over drugs.

He was sentenced to life imprisonment by a criminal court on April 18, 1977, following his conviction with two accomplices on charges of possession of 8.3 kilogrammes of pure grade No. 4 heroin with intent to sell.

In passing sentence, the court said that Siri had been involved in the

smuggling of 43 kg of No. 3 heroin in Bremen, West Germany, in a charcoal shipment from Thailand on Sept. 1, 1976, about a month before he was arrested in Bangkok.

His two alleged accomplices, both Malaysians, were arrested in Bremen while Siri managed to escape to Bangkok.

Hardly 10 weeks after being sentenced to jail for life, Siri disappeared from the Bangkok maximum security prison following the production of a forged release warrant.

His escape two years ago came to light only in June

this year after prison authorities failed to bring the drug kingpin before the Appeals Court to hear its verdict on an appeal filed by Siri's lawyer.

Court officials who subsequently checked the "release warrant" pronounced it a forgery after noting that the court's seal on the document was smaller than normal and that the signature of the "judge" did not match that of any known judge.

Uproar

The two-year delay in noticing Siri's escape caused an uproar in Government and Press circles in Bangkok.

After a top-level in-

vestigation by an Interior Ministry committee, formal charges were made against the governor of Bangkok Prison and two warders.

Mr Harn Phansomboon, the former governor of Bangkok Prison and later Director of the Corrections Department, Criminology Division, appeared in court on Sept. 18 to hear formal charges against him of aiding Siri's escape.

Harn is accused of malfeasance in office, exercising his power as governor of Bangkok Prison to illegally release Siri and conspiring with an accomplice to forge a criminal court seal and release warrant.

He pleaded not guilty to all the charges.



SIRI SIRIKUL

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

ATTORNEY REVEALED AS LEADER OF NARCOTICS RING

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 18 Oct 79 p 20

[Text] The arrest of drug traffickers Jose Luis Rodrigues and Jonas Teixeira and secretary Maria Fernanda da Silva enabled the Federal Police's Bureau for the Suppression of Narcotics [DRE] to expose a drug-trafficking ring operating in Sao Paulo, Mato Grosso do Sul, Rio de Janeiro and Bolivia and led by attorney Diva Tereza de Nicola, 45 years of age.

Federal agents seized almost 2 kilograms of cocaine and learned that the purchasers of the drug include a well-known tailor from Sao Paulo, industrialists and businessmen, all of whom frequent two Cidade Jardim night-clubs. According to agent Luis Augusto Beline, who headed the investigations in Sao Paulo and Mato Grosso, Diva Tereza de Nicola is the leader of the "Sao Paulo drug connection," was paying the pilots (men engaged to transport the cocaine from Bolivia to Sao Paulo) 20,000 cruzeiros, and already had definite users who were paying 1,200 cruzeiros per gram.

When she learned of the arrest of the two traffickers and her secretary, Maria Fernanda da Silva, Diva left Sao Paulo. Many individuals, "important people" according to a federal officer, telephoned the DRE wanting to know about the attorney, as they thought she had been arrested. Diva and Maria Fernanda were arrested as a preventive measure by order of the judge of the city of Bataguassu, Mato Grosso do Sul, where the police work began with the arrest of Jose Luis Rodrigues.

In January 1979, when eight persons were arrested and 17 kilograms of cocaine seized, federal agents of the Sao Paulo DRE knew that an attorney was to receive part of the drug. With subsequent investigations, agents Jose Augusto Beline and Paulo Magalhaes discovered the connection of a group of drug traffickers who were making trips to Bolivia almost every month and returning with a large quantity of cocaine to be distributed in Sao Paulo. On 13 October, Jose Luis Rodrigues, alias Little Angel, was arrested in the city of Porto Quinze de Novembro while riding in a bus on the Mato Grosso-Sao Paulo run. The federal agents confiscated almost 2 kilograms of cocaine concealed in his suitcase and purchased in Santa Cruz de La Sierra, in Bolivia.

Jose Luis related that, on the way, his friend and co-trafficker, Jonas Teizeira de Carvalho, would take the bus to accompany him as far as Sao Paulo, inasmuch as they took turns delivering the "merchandise." The two were to lodge at Hotel Premier near the bus station and telephone a certain woman. The secret phrase was: "I should like to speak with Aunt Fefe; I have a delivery for her." If the answer came back: "Certainly, Little Angel, I can speak," it was only a matter of waiting for a certain person, a woman, to arrive in a short time. That is what happened. A federal agent impersonated Jonas and, when Maria Fernanda arrived, she was arrested and revealed that she was working for Diva Tereza de Nicola.

Since Maria Fernanda's arrest Monday afternoon, the attorney's office at 203 Rangel Pestana Avenue, Room 23, has been closed. Maria, 31 years old, widow, Portuguese from Brico, has been in Sao Paulo since 1972 and has been working for Diva for 4 years. She disclosed that she was responsible for picking up the cocaine almost every week and paying 20,000 cruzeiros to the individual who transported the drug. The drug was immediately delivered to the attorney and afterwards, according to the secretary, there was no further information as to how the drug was distributed.

The Federal Police obtained names of many individuals connected with Diva Tereza de Nicola, and agent Artur Carboni Filho refused to reveal the identity of the tailor, well-known throughout the country, who "was one of the attorney's biggest purchasers of cocaine." A small dossier of Diva's friends, her activity in the criminal court as attorney, and her connection with addicts and drug traffickers was handed over to the judge of Bataguassu, in Mato Grosso do Sul, who ordered the preventive arrest.

8568

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

COLUMNIST CRITICIZES U.S. DRUG ATTITUDES

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 8 Oct 79 p 4

[Article by Juan Diego Jarmillo]

[Text] It has taken the EL TIEMPO columnists almost 3 years to come to the conclusion that economic rationality suggests legalizing marihuana culture and that Colombia's unilateral struggle against drug trafficking is no longer tenable.

EL SIGLO understood this in 1977 when extraordinary events in the struggle against the drug evidenced Colombia's weakness against the American mafias and the unilateral character of the battle in which we are engaged. On one occasion, a senator and a governor of the State of Nevada tried using veiled threats to pressure Colombia's attorney general and minister of justice into freeing two drug traffickers who had been captured. This sad incident showed us the extent of corruption in America and the impossibility of stopping the traffic by ourselves. A few months later, Mrs Carter on her way south stopped a few minutes in Colombia in order to inquire about other American traffickers whose human rights presumably were being violated by their being in prison. After that, it was learned that President Carter's personal assistant used cocaine and marihuana. The American ambassador gave Colombia two helicopters and then started to inquire publicly why we had not put an end to drug traffic... In the meantime, Colombian judges were letting the traffickers free for lack of proof...

It was a deplorably year for Colombian morale. To these events were added tolerance toward marihuana consumption in some American states and its legalization in two others. Traffickers imprisoned in the United States could pay \$100,000 bail and remain free. When it was written in this newspaper that perhaps legalizing marihuana culture might at least solve the domestic problem of Colombia, where the attempt to prevent drug trafficking was causing a fantastic moral collapse, some cutting and harsh articles were written in EL TIEMPO against the poor conservatives. Now, the EL TIEMPO columnist has seen real life in his stroll through Central Park and has been able to ascertain the truth behind EL SIGLO's economic thesis: Until the demand for marihuana is controlled in the United States,

any efforts to suppress its culture in Colombia or any other part of the world will be ineffective. To fight against the drug in Colombia while in the United States its consumption is tolerated has only one effect: it raises marihuana prices, making it scarce, and thus multiplies its corrupting power to gigantic levels. It is possible that by decriminalizing its culture, moreover, part of its mysterious appeal will disappear. However, the Americans have already found medicinal virtues in marihuana and for the new generation it is less offensive than tobacco.

In addition, the fight against the drug endangers not only public morale but, in some cases, the very stability of democracy, which of necessity has had to rely on the armed forces, the latter thus engaging in a function atypical of the republican system.

9341
CS0: 5300

COLOMBIA

TURBAY: MARIHUANA WILL NOT BE LEGALIZED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 24 Sep 79 p 10-B

[Text] Caracas, 23 Sep (UPI)--The production and commercialization of marihuana will not be legalized during the administration of Colombian president Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, according to assurances he gave the Caracas newspaper EL NACIONAL.

The Colombian president thus answered suggestions from the president of the Colombian senate, Hector Echeverri Correa, who said that legalizing the sale of marihuana in Colombia would serve to raise funds for development and for the antinarcotics struggle itself.

"During my administration the legalization of marihuana will not come about, neither will the government lower its guard on this front," Turbay Ayala told EL NACIONAL.

He added that it seems "impossible to legalize marihuana, since the effects of such a measure would cause such ethical deterioration, such social turmoil, that, really, I would never dare to endorse a measure of this nature."

According to EL NACIONAL, observers of the Colombian political scene believe that Turbay's vigorous refusal to even consider legalizing marihuana, is a political attitude that has to do with the 1977-1978 pre-electoral campaign.

It recalls that during that period, in the bitter internal dispute with Carlos Lleras' sector within the Liberal Party first, and then in the competition against the Conservative Party candidate, Belisario Betancur, Turbay had to face the accusation that he was involved in the illegal traffic of marihuana." The newspaper adds that "the accusations were never proved, but seem to be among the slanders which have most scarred a Colombian politician used to being attacked and to get by in the most critical moments."

Turbay Ayala maintains that "the moral effect of this type of activities is more serious than even the lethal effect suffered by drug addicts, and I believe that we have to continue vigorously, decisively, the struggle we have already undertaken against drug trafficking."

9341
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

SECURITY COUNCIL LAUDS POLICE DRUG WORK

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 2 Oct 79 p 16

[Text] In its last session, the National Security Council expressed appreciation to the National Police for its work in the struggle against drug trafficking bands.

The proposal to send a special mention to the director general of police, Gen Pableo Alfonso Rosas Guarín, and to the F-2 national commander, Col Miguel Alfredo Maza Marquez, was submitted by the minister of government, German Zea Hernandez, and unanimously approved by the council members.

The secretary general of the Ministry of Government, Lorenzo Solano Pelaez, sent a copy of the decision to the F-2 commander, Colonel Maza Marquez. The text follows:

"I am pleased to send you a transcription of the proposal submitted by the minister of government, Dr German Zea Hernandez, and unanimously approved by the National Security Council in its session held on the 8th of this month:

"In that session, the National Security Council made special mention of and expressed appreciation for the National Police's high sense of responsibility and its commendable patriotic work and congratulated the director, Brig Gen Pablo Alfonso Rosas Guarín, and the F-2 commander, Col Miguel Alfredo Maza Marquez, and through them, the officers, noncommissioned officers, agents and other personnel at the service of said institution for their success in recent operations which culminated in the seizure of a great quantity of cocaine and the capture of several subjects dedicated to the illicit trade."

The communication is signed by the secretary general of the ministry of government, Lorenzo Solano Pelaez.

9341
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

FOREIGN FORMER MILITARYMEN INVOLVED IN LARGE COCAINE RING

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 15 Sep 79 p 18-A

[Article by Francisco Cristancho]

[Text] Two former militarymen from Chile and Ecuador are under arrest for alleged connections with the powerful drug trafficking band which was dismantled by the F-2 staff after an investigation which resulted in the confiscation of 800 kilograms of cocaine, in the largest worldwide operation against drug trafficking organizations.

This story reached us through a letter to the editor of the newspaper from Mrs Ofelia Valbuena de Contreras, wife of Arturo Contreras Bullemore, who is suspected by the investigating body of being one of the leaders of the band.

It was also learned yesterday that officials had seized \$1,048,500 in a Bogota residence, the money being related with the discovery of the 800 kilograms of cocaine.

Mrs Balbuena de Contreras points out in her letter that her husband belongs to a distinguished family of the city of Santiago and is a retired officer of the Chilean navy, where he earned the degree of naval architect.

Residing in Colombia since July, 1972, he joined the Aga-Fano enterprise, where he was a manager until 1977. Later, in 1978, he joined Manufacturas de Fibras de Vidrio, Mafil, as industrial partner.

Unfounded Charges

The letter adds that it is not absolutely true that the Villa Zamora farm, located in Suba, where most of the confiscated alcaloid was found, belongs to the former militaryman Contreras Bullemore.

She also assures us that her husband's arrest is causing incalculable damage to her children, who are students at the University of Chile.

She points out that Ecuadorian citizen Carlos Naranjo Lopez, also connected with the investigation, is a former army lieutenant of the aforementioned

country and in Bogota has been professor of the San Jorge Military School and instructor in one of our military districts.

Finally, she remains sure that the inquiries conducted by the court in charge of the investigation will demonstrate her husband's innocence as well as that of Naranjo Lopez, who acts as administrator for the Contreras Bullemore factory.

Dollars Confiscated

In addition, it was learned yesterday that a total of \$1,048,500, belonging to the powerful drug trafficking organization discovered by the F-2 at the beginning of this week, was confiscated yesterday in a building north of Bogota, after a raid during which no arrests were made.

According to the F-2 communique, a large amount of jewels of unspecified value were also seized at the end of the operation.

The report adds that two of the criminal organization's so-called "big shots" have been spotted. During a series of inquiries carried out by the F-2 as well as by examining magistrate 70, who is in charge of the investigation, it was learned that they are in the Spanish capital and their capture is imminent.

It was said yesterday that it is possible the investigation of the much-discussed case, given its importance, will be shared by several examining magistrates of the criminal courts.

The Investigation

The investigation which started the successful operation carried out by the F-2 happened almost a month ago with an action in Narino Department. Later other steps were taken in Bogota and, a few days after, three drug traffickers were found dead at a spot in San Francisco al Perdomo, south of the capital, in what has been construed as revenge among the bands dedicated to this activity. This finding gave the F-2 new clues, which finally led to last week's spectacular blow.

9341

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

DRUG TRAFFICKERS STEAL AVIATION GAS

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 6 Oct 79 p 2

[Text] Eight heavily armed subjects traveling in two jeeps attacked the Etapa Fumigation Company and stole several gallons of aviation gas.

The events, according to information furnished by a spokesman of the Ministry of Defense, occurred within Aguachica's urban perimeters, in Cesar Department. The assailants belong to the drug trafficking bands which operate in this region of the country.

According to the story furnished to this paper, the attackers burst into the above-mentioned establishment armed with revolvers, pistols and other automatic weapons, with which they intimidated the employees who were readying some airplanes for their daily work. The employees were forced into a room of the building and warned that if they tried to take any defensive action, they would be killed immediately.

Three of the outlaws made their way to the warehouse where several gallons of gas were stored and took 500 gallons. They placed a 250-gallon tank in each of the jeeps and fled. The authorities have descriptions of the jeeps in hand.

9341
CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

FOUR COCAINE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 23 Oct 79 p 20

[Text] Pichincha Interpol agents have arrested four drug traffickers who were dealing in both cocaine paste and marihuana.

In response to confidential reports, Pichincha Interpol agents proceeded to Huaquillas, El Oro, where they arrested Peruvian citizen Mario Guarniz Pineda, who confessed the activities that he was pursuing along with Ecuadorean citizen Maximiliano Castillo Avila. The two were arrested after wideranging investigations by the agents. They established that the two traffickers maintained contacts in the illicit business with elements in the Pacasmayo zone in the southern part of the country. As the Ecuadorean himself confessed, he was in charge of selling the drug to Colombian addicts in particular.

In the possession of the two arrested individuals were found 1,638 grams of cocaine paste in a polyethylene wrapper.

Peruvian and Ecuadorean Interpol agents are looking for Peruvian citizen Jorge Serrano, who sold the drug to Guarniz and Castillo.

Near Schools

Interpol agents set up watchposts at the entrances to schools in this city with the aim of arresting drug traffickers who sell the insidious and habit-forming drug to young people. Their vigilance paid off. In recent days Luis Rodrigo Quiranza was arrested with several packages of marihuana, weighing about 25 grams, in his possession. He had prowled around one of the soccer fields at a secondary school in this city.

On 24 de Mayo Avenue Interpol agents, with the help of personnel from the Pichincha Criminal Investigation Service, arrested Ricardo Barragan Cruz, who was carrying several packages of marihuana, weighing about 33 grams, to be sold to addicts in city schools and slums.

Interpol agents are looking for several individuals who have been identified as suppliers and sellers of marihuana.

The arrested persons were placed in the custody of the Prison Selection Office of the Judicial Branch for legal proceedings.



Ricardo Barragan Cruz (left) and Luis Rodrigo Quiranza, arrested drug traffickers



Mauricio Guarniz Pineda and Maximiliano Castillo, arrested drug traffickers

ECUADOR

MORI BROTHERS DENY DRUG TRAFFICKING

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 23 Oct 79 p 20

[Text] Guayaquil, 22 October--Vicente and Jaime Mori Luzuriaga, who were arrested and charged with being members of a powerful organized gang of international drug traffickers, denied in the presence of Fourth Criminal Court Judge Dr Gerardo Pozo Veliz that they were involved in the illegal drug business, and they accused Tiberio Ordonez, an agent with the Guayas Section of Interpol, of trying to blackmail them with demands of 1 million sucres.

Vicente Mori, who has also been charged with taking part in a shootout during which his brother Jorge Gonzalo Mori Luzuriaga and Police Capt Marco Narvaez Camacho were killed, was brought before the judge naked from the waist up. He showed the consequences of four bullet wounds received on the night of 25 September when the shootout broke out inside the Policentro on Kennedy Avenue. Mori's wounds were located in the abdomen and on the arms and back.

The court was moved to the penitentiary to hear questioning of the two implicated brothers.

Permits

The first to testify was Jaime Mori Luzuriaga, who stated that while he was in prison for drug trafficking, he obtained leaves from the then prison directors and began transporting firewood there in a truck owned by one of his brothers. It was in this way that he earned a living.

On 23 September he was detained upon arriving at his residence and threatened with return to prison by Interpol Deputy Chief Capt Narvaez Camacho and agents Luna and Ordonez. They said that they had reports that he was involved in drug trafficking and therefore searched the entire house while the woman he was living with and their children looked on in tears. Mori said that Ordonez proceeded to the rear of the house and returned with what is called a "hayaca," a small packet containing cocaine, as evidence that Mori was involved in trafficking, which Mori

subsequently denied. He said that he was taken to the Modelo Barracks, where he claimed that he was severely tortured in a bid to have him confess his drug trafficking involvement. He asserted that he was tied by the hands and feet and repeatedly lowered into a tank of water.

Mori said that in spite of the mistreatment he always claimed he was innocent of the crime.

He denied links in the drug business with his brothers Jorge Gonzalo, who is now deceased, and Vicente, with whom he was, in fact, annoyed because he did not visit him in the prison where he was being held, he said.

Vicente Mori

Vicente Mori Luzuriaga then testified and also denied the charge. He countered with the claim that on the night of 25 September, before the shootout at Policentro, where he was taken under arrest, agent Ordonez hit him and demanded 1 million sucres, threatening to beat him up if he did not agree to this. He refused because he felt that he was not guilty of the crime with which he was being charged. He then testified that at Policentro he was visited by Interpol Deputy Chief Capt Marco Narvaez and agents Ordonez and Luna, who accused him of being a drug trafficker. He said that Ordonez asked him for a million sucres at a point when the Interpol deputy chief left the group to make a phone call. Vicente said that he told the agents that he was prepared to be taken away under arrest but that he was not about to hand over any money.

The witness then was about to give an account of how the shootout occurred at the Policentro, but he was stopped by his attorney, Humberto Miranda Veliz, who said that he ought to present the account at the trial in connection with Captain Narvaez's death.

Vicente Mori also denied that drugs were confiscated from him at the time of his arrest.

To Testify Today

Guayaquil, 22 October--Tomorrow at 900 hours, defendant Vicente Mori Luzuriaga will testify in the presence of Seventh Criminal Court Judge Dr Marco Martillo Murillo at his trial for the murder of Police Capt Marco Narvaez Camacho, the deputy chief of the Guayas Section of Interpol, and of his own brother, Jorge Gonzalo Mori, during a shootout inside Policentro on the night of 25 September of this year.

In order to carry on the proceedings, the court will be moved to the shoreline penitentiary, where Mori is being held. He is also charged with drug trafficking, for which he is being tried separately.

The Charge

The specific charge presented at the trial for the murder of Capt Marco Narvaez is that the defendant, Vicente Mori Luzuriaga, on 25 September at the Policentro, took out a 38-caliber Llama brand revolver and "treacherously and at an advantage" fired at Captain Narvaez, who was hit four times, unable to defend himself from the surprise attack.

Captain Narvaez Camacho had arrived at the Policentro at the head of a group of agents consisting of 1st Sgt Adolfo Luna Peralta, Manuel Sanchez Caicedo and Teofilo Ordonez Villacis, after arresting Vicente Mori and confiscating cocaine from him that he allegedly acquired from his brother Jorge Mori Luzuriaga.

The tragic event during which the Interpol deputy chief lost his life also saw the death of the accused's brother, Jorge Mori Luzuriaga, who was hit by a bullet in the heart. With his testimony tomorrow the defendant will present his version of what happened on the aforementioned night at the Policentro offices, the scene of a tragic episode that left two dead and the defendant himself, Vicente Agustin, seriously wounded by four bullets.

8743

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

MEETING WITH U.S. OFFICIALS ON ANTIDRUG EFFORT HELD

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 24 Oct 79 Sec B p 3

[Text] It was announced here that an important meeting will be held on the international level between officials of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic and high-ranking officers from the United States' narcotics police today and tomorrow, in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon.

The Federal Public Ministry agency announced that the head of the Federal Judicial Police in Mexico, Gen Raul Mendiola Cerecero, will serve as chairman of the working meeting, at which important topics related to cooperation and coordination of the campaign against drug trafficking will be discussed.

Group chiefs and commanders of the Federal Judicial Police detailed to the northern zone of the country, which includes the states of Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas, Chihuahua, Tijuana and Sonora, will be present at the meeting, which will open today and conclude tomorrow.

Reliable sources disclosed that Gen Joaquin Figueroa Luna, deputy director of the Federal Judicial Police, who tendered the official invitation to the narcotics authorities from Laredo, Texas, was in this town yesterday.

Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, coordinator of the AMPF [Agency of the Federal Public Ministry] in the states of Nuevo Leon, Coahuila and Tamaulipas, stated that officials from the federal and narcotics police in the states bordering Mexico have been invited to the meeting, which will be of great significance.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

PUBLICATION CITES RESULTS OF ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN

Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 24 Oct 79 Sec A p 9

[Text] Of all the farmers involved in the drug traffic, none has committed another offense after being granted a pardon by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic because the latter regarded them as victims of ignorance and of their extreme poverty, more than anything else.

This is one of the most important additional items of information in the leaflet entitled "On the Mexican Effort Against Drugs," which was received yesterday by the acting police inspector, Jose Refugio Ruvalcaba Munoz, to be distributed among all the public security forces subordinate to the municipality.

This publication, in full color, sent by Federico Chacon Prieto, deputy director of services for the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, cited the most important reforms made on behalf of the farmers who have been arrested after being caught growing and harvesting drugs.

The police chief observed that this dismissal of action is a genuine method of social justice, because the poverty that prevails in some areas in which not even minimal prosperity has been achieved has caused some groups of farmers to become an easy prey for drug traffickers, who induce them to plant and cultivate drugs. In this way, those poor people find a way to meet their most pressing needs; and they do not realize that such activities are criminal acts, in view of their primitive notions of culture.

For these Mexicans, the federal government desires a change in their lives, and not jail.

Through its antidrug program, the federal government has ascertained the precarious socioeconomic status and cultural backwardness of the majority of the farmers who have been indicted for crimes against health.

The Attorney General's Office has dismissed penal action in such cases, based on the new philosophy of the Public Ministry, which is considered a protector and representative of the society, and not a mere instrument for deprivation of freedom.

This gesture, of an eminently humane essence, has been applied to individuals from urban areas who are not habitual offenders but who have happened to fall into the hands of the drug traffic.

These individuals are the carriers or consumers of very small amounts of drugs who should, therefore, be rehabilitated, and not convicted.

The Attorney General's Office states that, in the case of both the latter and the farmers, the clearcut stipulation has been made that such dismissals will not take place in instances of second offenses.

It stresses the fact that, in all the proceedings heard to date, no second offenders have been found; something which demonstrates the efficacy of the measure.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

POLICE IMPLICATION IN DRUG TRAFFICKING DISCLOSED

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 3 Nov 79 p 4

[Text] Mexico City, 2 November--The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, through its Narcotics Department, has discovered a dangerous international ring engaged in shipping large amounts of cocaine and marihuana from our country to several states of the United States.

It was found that several state police forces were participating, aiding the drug traffickers in their operations.

The ring was discovered after an intensive investigation carried out by Comdr Florentino Ventura, who is also head of INTERPOL in our country. Heading a special group coordinated by the Federal Public Ministry agent, Javier Cuello Trejo, he discovered that the headquarters of this dangerous ring were located in the state of Chiapas, as well as in Zacatecas.

Subsequently, an investigation was conducted and two large storage places were found in those states in which several tons of packed marihuana were discovered, as well as a plant for processing poppies.

On the same site, a Cessna aircraft was found, which had been used to ship the drugs to the leading consumption centers in the United States.

In that location, the federal agents captured the brothers Fidel and Oscar Gomez, who were stealing trailer trucks in which they were also transporting marihuana, after concealing them on the sites where that grass was being planted and cultivated.

They said that the drugs were collected in stolen trucks in several states of our country, particularly in the southeast, and were then taken along a clandestine highway to Zacatecas, where they were concealed for a period of time. Later, the trucks were painted a different color and were loaded with the drugs and driven to the United States border, where they were met and the drugs were picked up by the drug traffickers from that country.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

ACCOMPLICES OF DRUG RINGLEADER ACQUITTED BY COURT

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 26 Oct 79 Sec B p 3

[Text] Rosendo Gomez Linan and Ramon Ortega Cana, who were identified as the presumed accomplices of the trafficking ring headed by the drug traffic czar, Alejandro Alejandro Pena, were acquitted of all guilt upon being granted protection by the Laguna district judge located in Torreon, Coahuila, against the warrant for their arrest which was issued in this town by the third district judge.

In the same proceedings for the writ of protection, Alejandro Alejandro Pena filed a similar appeal, but the order for his official imprisonment was confirmed, and the judge subsequently imposed on him a 20 year jail sentence, which was later reduced to 15 years' imprisonment and a fine of 25,000 pesos.

All three were cited in trial number 131-977, which was heard in the third district court. Also involved in this case was Jose Zamarripa Gonzalez, who later obtained a release with legal reservations.

The records relating to the trial indicate that in June 1977, agents of the Federal Judicial Police broke up the ring headed by Alejandro Alejandro Pena.

Two kilograms of heroin, worth several million pesos if "placed" on the black market for drugs in the United States, were seized during the investigation conducted by Federal Judicial Police agents under orders from Comdr Rafael Diaz Albores and group chief Rodolfo Lopez Herrera.

During the course of the investigation, it was discovered that Gomez Linan and Ortega Cana were associated with Alejandro Pena in the purchase and sale of drugs; but, although they were assiduously sought, they could not be apprehended.

However, Gomez Linan and Ortega proved that the charges brought against them in the trial in question by Alejandro Pena, naming them as accomplices, were made as a result of the torture to which he was subjected by his captors. This and other factors prompted the Laguna district judge to grant them protection against the warrant for their arrest.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

FIVE MARIHUANA PLANTATIONS DESTROYED, TRAFFICKERS CAUGHT

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 2 Nov 79 Sec B p 3

[Text] Agents from the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, aided by forces from the National Army detailed to the Eighth Zone which has its headquarters in the port of Tampico, Tamaulipas, dealt a devastating blow to the drug traffic by destroying five plantations on which marihuana had been grown yielding an approximate volume of 17 tons.

In addition to destroying the cannabis indica, the federal agents arrested several individuals associated with the drug traffic, from whom weapons of various calibers and vehicles were seized. The latter had been used to ship the marihuana to the places of distribution.

A bulletin issued yesterday morning by the coordinating agency for the anti-drug campaign in the northeastern zone announced the results of a careful investigation carried out by the federal agents under orders from Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez and Comdr Manuel Espindola Martinez.

The marihuana which was destroyed was worth several million pesos.

In order to destroy the five plantations each of which covered an area of from 5 to 6 hectares in their entirety, the Federal Judicial Police had to request the assistance of National Army troops.

At dawn on Wednesday, the government agents carried out the plan that had been devised to exterminate the ring of drug traffickers who had been operating for some time in the vicinity of the municipality of Tula, Tamaulipas.

The "Mamaleon" and "San Rafael" communal farms had been converted into marihuana producing centers.

In the locations involved, the federal agents and troops discovered the five plantations. The cultivated marihuana had already reached a height of over a meter.

The federal agents invaded the communal lands and found there a ton of marihuana already packed and ready to be sent to the distribution centers, especially Reynosa and Matamoros, which are considered to be the principal

"springboards" used by the drug traffickers to ship the harmful grass to the United States.

Intensifying the investigation in the same area, the federal agents apprehended five drug traffickers, who were found to have in their possession firearms and vehicles, as well as some implements for packing the marihuana.

German Dimas Nino, Refugio Chaires Barron, Ebodio Chaires Barron, Matilda Garcia Llamas and Catarino Padilla Alonso fell into the hands of the federal police.

It was ascertained that Matilda Garcia Llamas was the one responsible for distributing the seed, subsequently serving as a contact between the growers and purchasers of the cannabis indica.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

MEMBERS OF TRAFFICKING RING ARRESTED IN GUADALAJARA

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 22 Oct 79 p 10

[Text] Mexico City, 21 October--Yesterday, the Federal Judicial Police broke up an international ring of drug traffickers, arresting 13 of them in the city of Guadalajara. There are 20 more members of the gang, which has been operating in Colombia, Mexico and the United States, yet to be captured.

Those arrested for crimes against health were taken from Guadalajara to the Federal Judicial Police jail in the Federal District, where they are being questioned by agents from the narcotics group of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic.

The army participated in the capture of the criminals, backing up the federal entity.

Those in custody were engaged in purchasing, selling manufacturing, transporting and distributing cocaine, heroin and marihuana, according to an official report from the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic.

Their transfer was made in the greatest secrecy, as required by several officials from the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic; and this information was learned when representatives from three news media were present at the time when the prisoners were transferred to the jail.

It was reported confidentially that the pertinent preliminary investigation had not yet begun, owing to the fact that when the transfer took place, a considerable number of agents were working intensively to capture the other drug traffickers who are scattered along the border and in other sections of the country.

The areas of operation were located in the states of Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon and Baja California. Some of the drug traffickers who are in jail were caught in Tijuana, and others in Nuevo Laredo; and they were taken from those towns to Guadalajara and subsequently to the Federal District.

They purchased the drugs in Colombia, particularly the cocaine which, together with the heroin, they processed in a clandestine laboratory that they had set up in Guadalajara, Jalisco.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

PRE-RELEASE ORDERED FOR JAILED DRUG OFFENDERS

H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 27 Oct 79 Sec A p 10

[Text] A total of 10 prisoners incarcerated in this town's jail on charges of crimes against health received a pre-release yesterday afternoon, after the deputy general director of coordinated crime prevention and social rehabilitation services of the Secretariat of Government, who was in the town for about 3 hours yesterday, dealt personally with their cases.

The aforementioned official, Marcial Flores Ruiz, was present for the sole purpose of becoming thoroughly informed about the cases of those 10 inmates, who were released from jail at about 1400 hours yesterday.

The prisoners benefiting from this measure on the part of the crime prevention and social rehabilitation entity were Oscar Garcia Gonzalez and Arnulfo Gonzalez Ochoa, who were jailed only on Saturdays and Sundays, but in the lockup in Reynosa, which is their place of origin.

Also receiving a pre-release were Jose Galindo Paz, Jose Salinas Garcia, Jose Luis Passament, Antonio Ruiz Ramirez, Ciro Carvallo Perez, Ignacio Torres Gamino, Jose Cruz Garcia and Santos Valentin Torres Barcega.

All of them received that benefit in the third degree, which means that they will be at large in the daytime, and will be confined in the Matamoros jail at night.

In about 2 months, the latter prisoners may receive more extensive benefits, meaning that they would only be incarcerated on Saturdays and Sundays, and would be completely free during the week.

The high-ranking social rehabilitation official said yesterday that any of these prisoners, if they observe good behavior, may only have to report once a month in about 3 months from now.

He noted that this measure was adopted in accordance with Article 81 of the Federal Penal Code, and Articles 7 and 8 on minimal standards for social rehabilitation of prisoners.

The prisoners who received the benefit of pre-release had been in jail from 2 to 5 years, and had served half of the sentences imposed on them for crimes against health.

The notification of the pre-release of each of the 10 prisoners benefiting therefrom was given directly by Marcial Flores Ruiz, in the presence of Lucio Flores Castillo, warden of the local jail.

Upon being questioned about this, Flores said that this benefit is meant only for prisoners already sentenced who have served at least 50 percent of the sentence given them.

It was announced that the deputy general director of social rehabilitation, Marcial Flores Ruiz, has been making a tour of various towns in the republic, in order to grant pre-releases to hundreds of prisoners throughout the entire nation.

The main purpose is to enable prisoners who have already served a considerable portion of the sentence imposed on them in jail to obtain their freedom, and to clear out the jails, many of which are virtually filled.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

FARMERS CLAIMED VICTIMIZED BY ARMY ANTIDRUG ACTIVITY

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 22 Oct 79 pp 1, 6

[Text] Heads of the League of Agrarian Communities and Farmers Unions of Sinaloa complained yesterday about the position assumed on constant occasions by Army forces which at times use excessive harshness with the residents of the rural areas, without any need to do so.

Hector Manuel Torres Saenz, the legal adviser of the CNC [National Peasants Confederation] in the state, and head of Regional Agrarian Committee No 16, stated in this regard that he is by no means opposed to the campaign undertaken by the Army and the Office of the Attorney General of Justice to eliminate the drug traffic.

He remarked: "On the contrary, we applaud it; but if, as the military authorities have claimed, 95 percent of the planting and trafficking of drugs has been eliminated to date, thanks to Operation Condor, there is no good reason for them to mistreat the farmers on the raids that they make in the towns."

Torres Saenz also said that the harshness with which the soldiers sometimes act gives a bad impression to the younger generation; and expressed the view that, "We owe the Army respect for its action for the benefit of society, for protecting the citizenry and for safeguarding the national interests, not for the terror that it arouses among the people."

Moreover, the peasant leader declared that this complaint has already been made to the local military authorities, specifically, to General Santander, chief of staff of the 9th Military Zone, who assured them that an investigation would be made of the activities of the forces, so that no unjust offenses would be committed.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

NOGALES TRAFFICKERS PURSUED--The capture of two residents of Nogales, Sonora, who are accused of having helped to ship marihuana and heroin to the neighboring country might take place today or tomorrow, according to information given yesterday to narcotics agents located in Nogales, Arizona, who said that two shipments of drugs bound for the eastern United States which were being sent by a man and a woman had been detected. Yesterday afternoon, it was learned, two residences in Nogales, Sonora, were being kept under surveillance. Both are located in the southern part of the town (in the Granja development and on Kennedy Street), where the accused reside, one of whom had already been identified as the main ringleader, and partner of another drug trafficker, residing on Moctezuma Street. However, the Federal Judicial Police did not provide any details on this activity. Both individuals were said to be the owners of two drug shipments taken to Nogales, Arizona, and from there to Phoenix, where the contacts with a ring in the east were to pick up the drugs for distribution. The drugs are worth over \$600,000. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 26 Oct 79 p 4] 2909

DRUG EXPERT ATTENDS MEETING--Yesterday, Dr Armando Barriguete arrived from the nation's capital to attend the Fourth Border Meeting on Drug Abuse, which is taking place in the neighboring city of El Paso. He arrived together with Israel Hellderun, and both visitors were received by Mrs Helen Velazquez, the general secretary of the Youth Rehabilitation Center, and Ana Maria Lopez. Upon being interviewed a few moments before the plane's arrival, Helen Velazquez said that Dr Barriguete's presence at the meeting on drug abuse would be extremely significant, in view of the information and intellectual qualities that he possesses. The visitor, in turn, said that very positive results are anticipated from the meeting in question, in attempting to prevent and cure drug addiction in Juarez and El Paso, as well as in the neighboring areas. [Text] [Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 24 Oct 79 Sec A p 5] 2909

TRAFFICKERS SUSPECTED OF MURDER--Tamaulipas, 30 October--The killing of the teacher and former municipal mayor, Vladimir Rodriguez Trevino, was ordered by drug traffickers or his political foes. Both hypotheses are being considered by the police forces investigating the murder of the municipal official, a crime which has already evoked a series of political reactions throughout the state, such as the demonstration held today by all members

of Section 30 of the National Union of Educational Workers. At the interment ceremony yesterday, headed by Governor Enrique Cardenas Gonzalez and all the mayors of the state, great tension was in evidence. The Tamäulipas governor confined himself to commenting that all the mayor's initial projects would be completed. Police Chief Juan Benavides dismissed the police inspector here, Antonio Sandoval, for not having taken the precaution of having the official guarded at a public function. It was commented among residents of the town that the murderer, Jose Amador Garcia Lopez, and his accomplice, Javier Alonso Ramirez Guerra, might well have been ordered to be brought from California by his political enemies from the PARM [Authentic Party of the Mexican Revolution], and drug traffickers who had sentenced the mayor to death. However, this is all conjecture. The killer fled to the United States, from which he can easily be brought back. During the last municipal elections, this town was one of the agitated focal points. At one stage, a PARM fortified site was under consideration. Although Mayor Vladimir won, it was by a very slim margin and because of the series of tricks that it is claimed the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] played. [Text] [Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 31 Oct 79 Sec A p 11] 2909

COCAINE SEIZED FROM VENEZUELAN--Mexico City, 1 November--Federal Judicial Police agents confiscated 3 kilograms of pure cocaineworth more than 30 million pesos on the black market for drugs from drug traffickers of Venezuelan nationality. The cocaine shipment taken from Miriam Griman Ramirez and Nora Magali Alcantara Alvarez was seized at the international airport in this capital when the two drug traffickers were going through customs. They seemed quite nervous, and therefore the Federal Judicial Police agents who are assigned to this airport on a permanent basis decided to search them. In one of the inspection rooms, the agents found several polyethylene bags in which they were carrying the drugs attached to their bodies. During the questioning, the two Venezuelans said that they had intended to spend a few days in this city, and then fly to the United States where they would sell the drugs for several million pesos. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 2 Nov 79 p 1] 2909

PLANE CRASH DRUG CONNECTION--Mexico City, 29 October--The Federal Judicial Police are thoroughly investigating the plane crash that occurred a few days ago on the Mexico-United States border, because it is believed to have been caused by members of the international drug trafficking Mafia. This was learned today from police sources who stated: "The best members of this entity have been assigned to probe the accident," during which four agents, two pilots and five drug traffickers were killed. The aircraft was flying the prisoners to the United States. They had been serving a sentence for drug trafficking in the jail in Merida, Yucatan, and were being guarded by Federal Agents Raul Beltran, Santos Benavidez Lara, Rafael Acosta and Ernesto Acopio. Also killed with the foregoing were the pilots, Capt Rene Hernandez Rodriguez and Capt Marco Antonio Fano; and, obviously, the prisoners Michael Alsen, Judy Ann Sheldon, Gerald John and Latus Sander, also died. It is thought that some kind of explosive device was set, or the failure of some key part was caused to make the aircraft crash while in flight, resulting in

death for all its occupants. All this might have been done for the purpose of preventing the drug traffickers in custody from disclosing the names of the Mafia ringleaders. The transfer of the offenders to the United States was based on the agreement for the exchange of prisoners with that country. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 3 Oct 79 p 1] 2909

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS CAUGHT--Mexico City--A total of 13 Mexicans presumed to be traffickers in cocaine and other drugs between Mexico and the United States were arrested by Federal Judicial Police agents and the Mexican Army when found to have 2 kilograms of pure cocaine in their possession. They confessed that they had already brought in 14 kilograms of the same drug. Those under arrest are: Santiago Flores Vicencio, Antonio Flores Vicencio, Rafael Garcia Flores, Jose Garcia Flores, Concepcion Garcia Diaz, Blas Rivera Gutierrez, Gilberto Aguirre Garcia, Magdaleno Valenzuela Lopez, Lamberto Diaz Gaytan, Pedro Hernandez Avaonza, Andres Lopez Ulloa, Ramon Rodriguez Rios and Maria del Rosario Flores Duran. [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 15 Oct 79 p 4] 2909

DOCTOR FOUND PROCESSING DRUGS--A physician who was presumably engaged in the trafficking of hard drugs which he himself processed in his office was captured in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, by Federal Judicial Police agents. The coordinator of the Federal Public Ministry agencies, Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, announced that this individual is Dr Gustavo Yanez Arredondo, from whose laboratory, located in his own residence, three glass flasks were seized. One of the receptacles contained approximately 21 grams of pure cocaine; another contained 219 grams of opium; and the third had 9 grams of morphine. Dr Yanez Arredondo's arrest resulted from information obtained after exhaustive investigations, which identified him as a presumed drug trafficker. It was learned that Yanez Arredondo obtained the opium in the southern part of the country, and engaged in processing it himself, to produce heroin, cocaine, morphine and other drugs. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 24 Oct 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED--Yesterday, the drug traffickers Javier Pena Garcia, Juan Manuel Sosa Pineda and Jose Hernandez Montelongo, as well as the smuggler Joaquin Olmos Vega, were given prison sentences by the third district judge. In the first case, it was reported that Pena Garcia received a jail sentence of 6 years and 6 months, Juan Manuel Sosa's sentence was 5 years and 3 months in jail, and the third individual was sentenced to 4 years in jail for his guilt in committing a crime against health. They were arrested on 30 March of last year in Reynosa, as they were about to carry out a cocaine sales transaction. Javier Pena and Jose Hernandez were in a 1972 Renault car, waiting for a customer to whom they intended to sell 250 grams of cocaine. Pena said that his friend, Juan Manuel Sosa, had another moderate amount of cocaine concealed; and hence he was captured with 775 grams of the drug in his possession, as well as a moderate quantity of psychotropic drugs. Insofar as Joaquin Olmos Vega is concerned, it was reported that he received a jail sentence of 1 year and 6 months for his guilt in committing the crime of clandestine shipment of firearms and ammunition, in the degree of an attempt. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 20 Oct 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

COCAINE TRAFFICKING RING DISBANDED--A ring of cocaine traffickers who were operating in the country on an international scale and whose center of operations was Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, and Guanajuato, was partially broken up by Federal Judicial Police agents detailed to the capital of Monterrey. On Thursday morning, federal agents raided a residence located at No 116 South in the Central Section, in Durango; because they had information to the effect that a cocaine purchase and sale transaction was to take place there. In that location, the Nicaraguan Benjamin Conrado Saavedra and the Venezuelans Carlos E. Canas, Erick A. Lapreyvara and Hilmer A. Felipe, who had 28 grams of pure cocaine in their possession, were captured. They stated that they were only looking for a customer to whom to sell the "powder" which they had bought in Guanajuato from Roberto Loza, alias "La Changa," and his wife, Silvia Reyes, whose residence is at No 31 Arroyo de la Bosa, in that town. Subsequently, when "La Changa" and his wife were caught, an additional 26 grams of pure cocaine were confiscated from them. The Federal Public Ministry reported that it is quite likely that more arrests will be made at any moment. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 20 Oct 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

COCAINE SEIZURES REPORTED--A powerful ring of cocaine traffickers was broken up yesterday by forces of the Federal Judicial Police from this town under orders from Comdr Narciso Estudillo Cerezo, who seized from them 7 kilograms of pure cocaine in raids that they made in Naco, Hermosillo, and Culiacan, Sinaloa. Humberto Garcia de Alba Cortez, agent of the Federal Public Ministry in this town, announced yesterday that the federal police had first arrested Reginaldo Serrano Moreno in the town of Naco, with 575 grams of pure cocaine; and this drug trafficker confessed that the drugs had been sold to him by Arturo Lugo Lugo, who was arrested in the town of Hermosillo. Lugo Lugo, in turn, admitted that he had purchased the cocaine in the town of Culiacan, Sinaloa, from the traffickers Benito Vergara Gonzalez and Takeo Matusumoto, from whom 6,300 kilograms of pure cocaine were also seized. All those under arrest are in the jail of the Federal Judicial Police in this town, at the disposal of Garcia de Alba, agent of the Federal Public Ministry. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 18 Oct 79 p 4] 2909

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS' CONTACTS ESCAPE--Mexico City, 16 October--The contacts of a drug trafficking ring which was attempting to bring a shipment of cocaine worth over 150 million pesos into the United States, led by Steve Curtis Zaladak, were identified today by the Federal Judicial Police detailed to San Luis-Rio Colorado, Sonora. The drugs were to be delivered to four men who were awaiting them in Los Angeles. Steve Curtis Zaladak was captured when he was leaving the tourist center known as "Cantamar," in the town of Ensenada, bound for the border in a Ford Galaxie station wagon with Los Angeles, California, license plates, in which he had concealed the drugs in 25 plastic bags attached to the inside of the doors, to the floor and to the seats. Curtis said that he was supposed to deliver the shipment to Pat Sheehan, also an American, who in turn would take it to Joseph Begler, who was on the high seas in the vicinity of Hawaii, aboard a yacht with registration number CF-6248-SX, from San Diego, California. Thanks to the information that Curtis Zaladak supplied to the federal agents, they requested the assistance of the Marine Corps detailed to El Rosarito, Baja California, in capturing the rest of the ring located aboard the yacht. Apparently as a result of a tip received by the drug traffickers, when the Marines reached the site where the yacht was anchored, the latter had left. Hence, the chase began, but was unsuccessful, because the drug traffickers managed to escape. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 17 Oct 79 p 4] 2909 CSO: 5330

IRAN

IRAN TAKES LEAD IN DESTROYING NARCOTICS

Tehran BAMDAD in Persian 11 Oct 79 p 7

[Text] Addiction--the word itself has connotations of death, degradation, shame, misfortune.

Experts of the International Commission on Drug Addiction have defined as drugs "any substance which causes changes when it enters the body of a living being." Every day, we see how quickly drug abuse has spread in all its various forms--opium, heroin, cocaine, marijuana, hashish, LSD. Mankind has never found a cure for addiction or a way of eradicating it. In recent years, drug addiction has spread quickly among the youth of Iran, as a direct consequence of our society's political, economic, social and cultural ills.

Before the revolution, few people grappled with this menace, and so contributed indirectly to its spread. However, since the revolution the government and various other groups and organizations have become aware of the danger, and have committed themselves to ridding society of drug addiction as soon as possible. With a similar goal in mind, the revolutionary courts have condemned a number of drug smugglers to death. The Fighters for Truth organization also has a plan which it claims can cure addicts quickly and without recourse to drugs.

'Abbas 'Abbasi, a member of the Fighters for Truth, spoke about this plan. "Soon after the revolution, I and several other members of the fighters were standing guard at the gendarmerie one day, when an old woman came up to us and told us that she had seven daughters and two sons. The sons were addicts, she said, and forced their sisters to sell their bodies in order to get money with which to buy heroin. My comrades and I were so upset by this that it inspired us to come up with a plan.

"We have seen over the years that medical treatment has been unsuccessful in eradicating drug addiction. However, now that the revolution has succeeded, we must root out all such evils from society; we must find a final cure for drug addiction. According to our plan, which has been endorsed by the Ministry of Health, addicts would be gathered up and completely cured in a more suitable location, such as by sending them to work on an isolated island."

A representative of the Ministry of Health has said that "if the plan is undertaken in cooperation with the ministry, it will surely succeed with the aid of the latter's expertise and experience.

"The Fighters for Truth can play an effective role in helping the ministry-- which has been working with addicts for 15 years and has a 70-percent success rate--in providing treatment, counseling and outpatient services, under the supervision of the ministry's specialists. Also, psychologists can play an important part in curing addiction.

"There are addicts who, after undergoing psychological treatment, have been completely restored to health and have again been able to participate in society."

Regarding the spread of drug addiction, the Ministry of Health representative said that "the only way to prevent the distribution of drugs is a program which the General Directorate for Control of Narcotics put into effect last May, whereby we have been able to destroy about 35 tons of confiscated narcotics, which a World Health Organization representative thinks is a record amount. This has been accomplished through the efforts of Parviz Shahin and 'Ali 'Asghar Rajavi, social aides at the Yoft 'Abad Hospital, Mas'ud Sadegqi, social aide at the Vanak Hospital for Drug Abuse, and Habib Bakshi, a researcher on drug abuse at the Vanak Hospital. They have also been working on a plan whose main points are summarized as follows.

Fundamentally, in order to implement any plan, it is first necessary to define the scope of the plan by determining the number of addicts to be treated. By registering all of the addicts in need of treatment, we can determine their number and rate of increase and base our plan accordingly.

"The plan is broken down into a number of separate phases.

"Phase one includes nationwide distribution of a questionnaire through the existing organizations, as well as formation of health committees in every province. This phase also includes treatment of those addicts who volunteer to be cured, the tightest possible control of the borders and control of importers (especially those connected with international Zionism) who import substances used in converting opium into heroin. The killing of the opium poppies is also included in this phase.

"Phase two involves hospitalizing a group of addicts and completing a questionnaire on each one's age, sex, type and duration of addiction and previous treatment, which will aid in determining the type of treatment needed and formulation of the required medications.

"Phase three, in addition to hospitalizing all addicts, includes cleansing society of all narcotics, giving instructions to households for accepting addicts, and releasing addicts who have jobs or families or other possibilities, restoring them to a healthy life. It also involves control of

pharmacies, especially with regard to sleeping preparations and tranquilizers."

Small children without a roof over their heads, women without friend or companion, and tearful mothers will celebrate with heartfelt joy when their loved ones come back, cured of addiction and restored to health.

Everyone is called on to help in planning and ensuring the success of the struggle against drug addiction.

8921
CSO: 5300

SENEGAL

BRIEFS

YAMBA CONTROL--The departmental committee against the production and distribution of yamba, met in Ziguinchor and was chaired by the department's adjutant prefect. The discussion involved a report of decisions made recently by the inter-ministerial council of 26 July. At the end of the meeting it was decided to hold informational sessions in city districts and in villages. It is hoped that all levels of society can be thus educated and become aware of the dangers of using yamba. To this end, the departmental committee against the production and circulation of yamba will spare no effort toward ending the scourge of yamba. Along with the educational effort, the bureau in charge of control will intensify its efforts to suppress the producers and traffickers of yamba. A strategy has been planned for this purpose. [Text] [Dakar LE SOLEIL in French 30 Sep 79 p 11] 9161

CSO: 5300

FRANCE

DRUG SMUGGLING FAMILY ARRESTED IN VALENCE

Paris LE MONDE in French 26 Oct 79 p 15

[Text] Lyon--In Valence, the Montaner family was considered respectable. They were not strangers to work. The two brothers, Jacques and Jean; their mother, Andree; Christiane, the wife of Jacques; Jacqueline, his sister and her companion Francis Millo worked as closely as fingers of the same hand to make the job profitable: the "Routard" enterprise, three large trucks rolling along the highways from Iran. Long and fruitful voyages... Wednesday 24 October they were charged with smuggling drugs (our latest edition) by Mr Jacques Pin, examining magistrate of Valence. Jacques and Jean Montaner and Millo were placed under arrest.

For the Montaner family, drugs were easy money. Today, hashish or heroin "traders" no longer belong to an organized network of gangsters as they did during the "French Connection" days. Their subsidiaries are limited to three or four "dealers" when they are not working alone. One trip to Thailand and a whole store of dreams comes true; one trip from the Moroccan shores to the Cote d'Azur is enough to raise their "status." Each one makes his own personal deal. They pass the border customs' service sitting on cushions filled with hashish and if they succeed, "the year will be great". The profits they make encourage active smuggling. At the borders, "H" is replaced with cigarettes or alcohol.

In Liverdun (Meurthe-et-Moselle) desperate men recently have been selling hashish from their gardens as marijuana (LE MONDE, 16 October). But in Valence, the Montaner family had greater visions and organized a drug smuggling business estimated at 2 tons of hashish and 18 kilograms of heroin.

In 1973 the Montaner family profited from the "Iranian miracle" for developing their business. On the way back from Iran, "Routard" trucks carried "exotic" goods, rugs, etc., so as not to return empty. But the miracle did not last. In this way, the Montaner family used their vehicles to traffic drugs without the drivers' knowledge, and hid the goods (under mud guards, in tanks) in order to "pass" the drugs which were destined to bring economically good health to the enterprise.

An Old Habit of Smuggling

In July 1978, according to statements of the accused, 1,500 kilograms of hashish from Iran were smuggled across France to the Netherlands. One month later, 700 kilos. In July 1978, since hashish was no longer sufficient, the Montaner family transported 18 kilos of morphine. Despite a contact in Iran (in this case, an old officer of the guard of the shah) and a buyer in the Netherlands, which allowed the Montaner family to get rid of their merchandise, the enterprise remained a family affair. "We had to intervene when we found out that the Montaner family "was into heroin," explains Robert Messini, general comptroller and director of the regional service of the judiciary police of Lyon, who led the investigation in collaboration with the central office for the repression of illegal drug smuggling. "We did not seize anything, but we obtained concordant statements and discovered the caches in the vehicles. We discovered traces of morphine in a suitcase and found sacks which had held the drug." The only seizure: a couple hundred doses of anethole used for manufacturing a "family aperitif," an old smuggling habit which the Montaner family had before getting into the more modern business. When laboratories were still around and Heroin No 4 was being used, the environment called the tune; it was either black or white, devil or Dear Lord, but one could see clearly. With hashish, drug smuggling has become more than a trade.

CSO: 5300

GREECE

CONCEALMENT DEVICES FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING REPORTED

Nicosia EIKONES in Greek 26 Oct-8 Nov 79 pp 30, 31, 32

[Text] When the young and beautiful Lebanese woman Julia Jamil Ragies decided to come to Cyprus to offer her services to the international narcotics smuggling business using the island as an intermediate station, she used the trick of the pregnant woman to deceive the police and the Cypriot authorities. She hid a large quantity of narcotics over her belly and under her maternity dress. Quite a misleading trick that did not prove capable of saving her and helping her continue her illegal activities with ease. Young Julia--better known as "Lucy"--was arrested at Larnaca airport the same day she arrived in Cyprus by the Cypriot authorities and was sentenced to 4 years imprisonment.

"Lucy" wore a corset over her belly with several bars of hashish inserted in it. And to mislead more effectively, she was pushing an invalid compatriot of hers in his wheelchair. She did not give any cause for suspicion until the moment that a policeman at passport control tried to help her get away from the crowd by pushing her back and slightly touching her belly.

He was surprised to discover that her belly was hard, like iron--something wierd and unnatural. The Lebanese woman was immediately subjected to a body search. It was discovered that not only was she not pregnant, but that she had a considerable amount of hashish in her possession. She was later called to face Cypriot justice. Today she is under detention in the Central Prison of Nicosia where she is serving her sentence.

The case of Julia Jamil Ragies or "Lucy" is not the only one that the Cypriot police has been involved in. Trafficking without precedent has been ascertained during the past 5 years from Cyprus with hundreds of kilograms of narcotics of all kinds destined primarily for Europe and America.

This is due to the fact that Cyprus, because of its geographic position, the political turmoil that exists in neighboring countries, especially in Lebanon, its being half occupied by Turkish troops and the weakness of the Cypriot government because of the situation to control the occupied areas, makes it favorable for the narcotics smugglers to use Cyprus for the promotion of their illegal business and as a transitional station.

Besides, the occupied area of Cyprus is the most ideal place for the cultivation, processing and trade of narcotics. Because, on the one hand, the northern coast is open and on the other, those who are in "command" of the north not only do not persecute those who are occupied with this....profession, but encourage it.

Narcotics trafficking and ways of combating it was one of the most flagrant subjects that was dealt with by this year's Annual General Assembly of the Interpol which took place in Nairobi, Kenya from 4 to 11 September. The subject was brought up for discussion by the chief of the Cypriot police, Savvas Antoniou.

Among other things, Antoniou said that Cyprus has never been confronted with an internal problem of cultivation, processing or use of narcotics. This is mainly due to a natural repulsion to narcotics by the Cypriot public. The only exception is the use of marijuana (referred to as kannaouri) that is not widespread enough to cause any worry at all.

Even though there is no internal problem in Cyprus, Antoniou expressed the desire to have the Cypriot police help as much as possible to defeat international narcotics trafficking by asking that the notifications regarding persons who are located in Cyprus and who are suspected of being involved in narcotics trafficking be sent promptly.

It is a fact that in the free areas there is no organized local use or cultivation of narcotics and the measures that are taken by the police in cooperation with the public and local authorities guarantee the continuation of a good tradition and the rejection of narcotics.

To the contrary, in the occupied areas, there is information that reveals that a systematic cultivation of plants is taking place for the production of narcotics--by Turkish settlers and Turkish Cypriots--for processing and for trade.

Because of the political situation in Cyprus, however, it is entirely impossible for the Cypriot authorities to have any control in the occupied areas. Besides, because of the proximity of northern Cyprus to Turkey and Lebanon and the almost nonexistent control of its coast, the trafficking--that is taking place through the British bases--is rampant and the merchandise is smuggled abroad without any obstacles.

At 7:15 a.m. on October 12, men of the Cypriot police arrested three persons in the act of negotiating the sale of 117 bars of hashish and a fourth person was arrested later when he was approaching to receive it. This took place at a coastal location of Larnaca--between the hotels Karpasiana and Lordos. The next day the court issued orders for the detention of Mehmet Timukin, 32 years old from Urfa, Turkey--now a settler in Morphou--Ahmet

Natir, 21 years old from the City of Krysokhous and now a tailor in Pyla, Andreas Adamou Sfikas, 28 years old from Avgoro and now in Larnaca and Sofoklis Konstantinou, 31 years old from Nicosia and now a merchant of perishables in Larnaca.

Both the Turkish Cypriot and the settler revealed that: 1. Large areas of the Morphou district are being cultivated with plants from which narcotics are produced because of the presence of large quantities of water that helps a lot in their growth. The soil is considered ideal for the cultivation of narcotics and is done under trees. The processing of hashish is done by professionals who are located in the occupied areas and who are paid well. Large quantities of narcotics are stored in Pergamos District.

Besides, in Karpasia District, a large area that runs from Vathylaka to the sea is being cultivated with opium.

So, because of the political crisis in neighboring countries of Cyprus and especially in Lebanon, the international traffickers focused their attention on Cyprus as the only ideal country that favors operations channeling narcotics to Europe and America.

2. There are also specific cases of drugs transported to neighboring countries of ours with the delivery taking place in great quantities while sailing in the open sea near Cyprus.

The smugglers of slow death--as the narcotics traffickers have been described--use Cyprus for their telephone conversations and the luxurious hotels of Lemesos, Larnaka and Nicosia for meetings and secret agreements and trade.

The Sense of Smell of Dogs

In Cyprus, as in other countries of Europe, there is a special section in the police for the suppression and defeat of narcotic trafficking named Narcotics Squad. The squad, in cooperation with Interpol and other countries, has managed to pursue many missions successfully and arrest many traffickers and seize large quantities of narcotics.

In 1978, the squad was successful in 21 cases and seized a total of 37 kilograms of hashish. This year, the successful cases have reached 16 and the quantity that was seized is almost double: 108 kilograms of hashish and 18 kilograms of opium. The arrested persons were mostly aliens who were, however, in close contact with Greek Cypriots and principally Turkish Cypriots.

A recent success of the Narcotics Squad occurred in August 1979 when 60 kilograms of hashish were found and seized. The hashish was in the possession of a Lebanese man who was active in Lemesos---it became evident that this quantity was destined for Europe.

We must note that the Narcotics Squad of the Cyprus police has a dog unit, with dogs especially trained to discover narcotics. Many of the successful operations are due to a great part to their sense of smell and training.

There are many many methods that are used by the traffickers to transport their merchandise. Their network is well organized and the methods they generally use are such that they escape the attention of the authorities of any country whatsoever. Fortunately, however, in most cases they do not appear to be as lucky as they would wish to be.

The Tires of Automobiles

The best known--classic way--of transporting narcotics by traffickers is the tires of automobiles. They take the inner tubes and "operate" from the inside, filling them with 100 to 150 bars of hashish or other narcotic, wrapped in cellophane to prevent damage from water. Then they sew them, attaching a self-adhesive and permitting some air to enter. To avoid the recognition of the tubes that may cause suspicion, they put them in bags and then load them on the ship.

The delivery of these narcotics is done afloat at sea when the ship that is transporting the narcotics meets the previously designated ship with which it had previously come to an understanding.

If, by chance, someone discovers them, they throw the bag into the sea without hesitation. The bag reaches the nearest coast. There are different ways of delivering narcotics while at sea that are used by the traffickers:

1. If, as an example, they want to deliver the tube with the illegal merchandise in the open sea near Cyprus, they set a point where delivery will be made. In case they lose contact between themselves, they tie a weight underneath the tube so that it will not go too far, throw it into the sea and it reaches a point where it cannot move any more. The other "person" finds it and picks it up.
2. They tie a weight under the tube that makes it submerge into the ocean. They tie a buoy on top of the tube, however, that is of their own making so those who will receive the merchandise will know where to find it. The tube is "sunk" so that it will not be seen and arouse suspicion. The receivers use frogmen to find it.
3. In the third case, they again put a weight on the tube and to mislead they tie it with a very long thin tube that reaches a distance of 500 meters and use polystyrene for a marker. It is sighted by the other "person" who receives it.

Other methods besides delivery at sea are: 1) In bottles that usually have a dark color. They remove the liquid with a tube and fill them with heroin again by a tube; 2) in a pack of cigarettes which are so well camouflaged that they escape even the attention of the police; 3) in photographic goods, especially paper for prints that is burned when exposed to light; 4) in automobile interiors, doors and chassis; 5) in prophylactics and plastic gloves, in women's cosmetics, in boots, in suitcases with double bottoms.

These are the best known ways of transporting narcotics. Despite all their arrests and their unsuccessful activities, the traffickers continue to do a thriving business and channel the merchandise of slow death to every corner of the earth. With the international mobilization of the Interpol, however, and the special sections of the police of every country for the suppression of narcotics trafficking, it is hoped that it will at least be restricted and thus that millions of lives will be saved of those who are lured into becoming narcotics addicts.

9346

CSO: 5300

SPAIN

BRIEFS

HASHISH SEIZED--Eight hundred kilos of hashish were taken by the drug squad of the Malaga police from the property of an Italian national near Marbella on the Costa del Sol. The haul was found hidden in waterproof packages. Apparently the villa where the drugs were found was a bridgehead for hashish from North Africa to Europe. The value of the haul would be worth more than 200 million pesetas on the black market. [LD260438 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 24 Nov 79 LD]

CSO: 5300

TURKEY

BRIEFS

HASHISH SEIZED--Istanbul narcotics units seized 122 kilos of hashish in a search conducted in a house in Istanbul's Bakirkoy District. The hashish was reportedly transported to Istanbul from Bitlis in a truck carrying bricks. Six persons were detained in connection with the incident. [Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 2000 GMT 16 Nov 79 TA]

HASHISH, HEMP DISCOVERED--Some 50 kilos of powder hashish and 65 kilos of Indian hemp were discovered today in the Pazarcik District of Kahramanmaraş. The hashish and the Indian hemp were found in a sack left in the fields in a search conducted by the special squads of the security forces. An investigation into the incident is continuing. [Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 21 Nov 79 TA]

CSO: 5300

UNITED KINGDOM

MURDER VICTIM REPORTEDLY HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL HEROIN RING

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 3 Nov 79 p 19

[Article by Joseph Young]

[Text] Detectives investigating a series of murders in Australia are to interview an Australian who is being questioned in Lancashire in connection with the gangland-style killing of a man found at Ecclestone, near Chorley, 20 days ago.

The handless corpse was discovered by two amateur skin divers in a flooded quarry, and Lancashire police said there were similarities between the killing and the murders in Australia.

The Australian detectives were flying to Britain yesterday.

Det. Supt. Raymond Rimmer, deputy head of Lancashire CID, said that early revelation of the name of the man found murdered at Ecclestone might put other people's lives at risk. But in Australia he was identified as Christopher Martin Johnstone, 35, and reports indicated that he was the leader of an extensive heroin smuggling ring.

Mr Rimmer said he was "99.9 per cent certain" of the identity of the 6ft 2in New Zealand businessman who was shot in the head and mutilated before his weighted body was dumped in the quarry.

Divers were searching a flooded quarry and a river in Scotland for the missing hands and the gun which was used in the killing, said Mr Rimmer.

'Shipping Company Connections'

One theory is that the murder victim lost a struggle for power at the head of an international drug smuggling ring based in Singapore to a partner in crime who had him "executed" while he was visiting friends and contacts in Northern Ireland.

The dead man, who is said to have travelled widely in the South Pacific and Asia, was known as "Mr Asia" and had connections with a shipping company in the Far East.

Four years ago he was thought to have been involved in smuggling marijuana into New Zealand, where he once worked as a shop assistant. The son of an Auckland dairy owner, he is believed to have arrived in Britain about two months ago.

Mr Rimmer said he expected murder charges would be preferred against some of the 20 people, including women, who have been detained and questioned at various police stations in Lancashire, some of them from the London area.

He said the police hoped to make further arrests, but he refused to confirm reports that one of the men being held was a professional "hit man" known as The Jackal and wanted in connection with the multiple killings in Australia, who was detained at Heathrow earlier this week.

Mr Rimmer said: "We are liaising with the police in Australia and New Zealand and are awaiting the arrival of officers who have a full background of the Australian and New Zealand connection."

These officers, it is hoped, will be able to identify positively the Ecclestone victim and will interview the man who was detained at Heathrow.

He is understood to be a middle-aged Australian and is thought to be linked with the murders of 11 drug smugglers in Australia, all believed to have been killed in a manner similar to the Ecclestone victim.

Mr Rimmer said no-one had yet been charged with any offence and there would be no court appearance at least until Monday.

Confirming that about 20 people had been detained during the Lancashire murder hunt, Mr Rimmer said: "I am confident that we have in custody the people responsible for the murder. Almost everyone connected with the inquiry is now in Lancashire at various police stations. They include local people."

If the search for the hands was successful it could lead to positive identification by fingerprints.

Couple 'Talked Too Much'

Our Melbourne correspondent writes: Australian police believed that the discovery of Johnstone's body could result in the cracking of a large drugs syndicate known as "The Kiwi Connection." They said that Johnstone was the mastermind of the Singapore-based ring.

Det. Chief Insp. Paul Delianis, head of the Melbourne Homicide Squad, said yesterday that Johnstone was "a past number one" of the massive drug operation.

Two Melbourne detectives travelling to Britain are expected to carry out further investigations into the double murder of Douglas Wilson, 26, and his wife Deborah, 24, whose bodies were found in a sandy grave at a beach resort about 60 miles from Melbourne, on May 18.

Melbourne police said the Wilsons were middle-line drug distributors for the Johnstone syndicate and were killed because they talked too much.

Other victims of the drugs syndicate, according to police, include:

Harry Lewis, a drugs courier, whose handless remains were found on a vacant plot in March.

A 24-year-old woman trafficker whose body was found floating in Sydney harbour on Jan. 1, 1976.

Two New Zealand men, including one who was thrown overboard during a drugs smuggling operation at sea.

A missing Melbourne couple who vanished late in 1977 after being known to have fallen out with the syndicate.

A woman working in a massage parlour in Melbourne who was found shot in the back of the head earlier this year.

Melbourne police said yesterday that Johnstone's death came after a feud in the syndicate. They believe that he and an associate amassed personal fortunes of between 2 million pounds and 3 million pounds from illegal drug activities in Australia and New Zealand.

The two men are thought to have fallen out over the persistent use of violence to solve the syndicate's problems and over demands for money to expand new drug routes in Europe.

Hidden Heroin Stockpile

The syndicate is understood to have started its operations in 1975 and police intelligence sources confirmed that in February last year it made its biggest smuggling trip. It is believed to have brought 14 drums, each weighing about 110 kilos, of heroin by trawler to Australia from Singapore.

Much of the stockpile is believed to be hidden in New South Wales, feeding addicts in Australia and New Zealand.

The syndicate has also been responsible for an Australian Government inquiry being launched into the country's major drug enforcement agency, the Federal Bureau of Narcotics.

Police believe that the Wilson couple were murdered because they divulged vital information about the syndicate's access to the bureau's computer bank.

A police source said yesterday that the syndicate paid a person with access to the computer an annual retainer of 12,500 pounds. He said the informant was paid 500 pounds every time he gave information on requests to the syndicate bosses and a further 2,000 pounds for the removal of confidential documents.

CSO: 5320

UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

STOWAWAY FACES DRUG CHARGE--A stowaway found at Heathrow airport yesterday aboard a TWA Boeing 747 from New York was released when immigration officials found he had a British passport. Customs officials are now holding Keith Rylance, 17, and have charged him with illegal possession and importation of drugs. Rylance was discovered sealed inside a baggage container in the aircraft's hold. He was born in Wigan, but his parents live in Cincinnati. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 2 Nov 79 p 2]

CSO: 5320

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